

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03524 01 OF 02 090631Z
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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03524

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, UN
SUBJECT: UN COORDINATION: CPC CONSIDERATION OF MEDIUM-
TERM PLAN ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE - CHAPTER 15

SUMMARY: CPC COMPLETED CONSIDERATION OF CHAPTER 15 (FOOD AND AGRICULTURE) OF MEDIUM-TERM PLAN SEPTEMBER 5. SOVIETS HAVE PUSHED HARD FOR INCLUSION IN PLAN OF REFERENCE TO UNGA AND ECOSOC RESOLUTIONS ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND CO-OPERATIVES. SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS RESERVED POSITION. WFC PROGRAM CRITICIZED FOR HIGHLY OPTIMISTIC STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND MISLEADING DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED IMPACT. FRANCE AND GHANA MADE SIMILAR CRITICISM WITH REGARD TO IMPACT STATEMENTS IN ECE PROGRAM. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS CRITICIZED LACK OF UNIFORMITY IN TABULAR AND NARRATIVE PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRAM PLAN AND ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND SOVIETS RESERVED POSITIONS ON BASIC NEEDS IN ECLA PROGRAM. JAPAN AND INDONESIA CRITICIZED DESCRIPTION OF LEGISLATIVE MANDATE IN ESCAP PROGRAM. END SUMMARY

1. CPC COMPLETED CONSIDERATION SUBJECT CHAPTER A/33/6 (PART 15) SEPTEMBER 5. IN GENERAL DISCUSSION USSR REAFFIRMED THAT ITS VIEW ON THIS CHAPTER IS SAME AS THAT EXPRESSED BY SOCIALIS-T COUNTRIES AT THIRD AND FOURTH MEETINGS OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. SOVIET REP CRITICIZED
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03524 01 OF 02 090631Z

ABSENCE OF ANY REFERENCE TO AGRARIAN REFORM OR COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN ECA, ECLA AND ESCAP REGIONAL PROGRAMS. IN DETAILED DISCUSSION OF ECWA AND ESCAP REGIONAL PROGRAMS, SOVIET REP CALLED FOR CHAPTER 15 TO REFER TO UNGA RESOLUTION 31/37 AND ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1978/8, BOTH OF WHICH DEAL WITH COOPERATIVES AND AGRARIAN REFORM.

2. US MADE ONLY OTHER GENERAL STATEMENT ON THIS CHAPTER. US DEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH VARIOUS STATEMENTS OF PROGRAM ELEMENT COMPLETION, BUT NOTED THAT PLAN POSTPONES SEVERAL PROGRAM ELEMENTS BUDGETED FOR CURRENT BIENNium UNTIL 1980-81 BIENNium. US ASKED WHAT HAPPENS TO RESOURCES PROVIDED FOR POSTPONED PROGRAM ELEMENTS. US CRITICIZED REPEATED STATEMENT THROUGHOUT CHAPTER THAT MEASURABLE INDICATORS OF PROGRESS FOR VARIOUS SUB-PROGRAMS CANNOT BE ESTABLISHED, LACK OF UNIFORMITY IN TABULAR AND NARRATIVE PRESENTATIONS OF SUB-PROGRAMS, AND FAILURE OF MANY PROGRAM STATEMENTS TO DESCRIBE OBJECTIVES AND ANTICIPATED IMPACT IN MORE SPECIFIC TERMS. US STATEMENT ENDORSED RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COURSES IN ECLA, ASSISTANCE TO MARKET DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA, REGIONAL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM IN WEST ASIA AND FOOD SECURITY AND FERTILIZER PROMOTION PROGRAMS IN ESCAP. WE NOTED VIRTUAL ABSENCE OF ANY REFERENCE TO IFAD AND FAILURE OF DRAFT TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES FOR SUB-PROGRAMS.

3. FRANCE, GHANA, NETHERLANDS AND NORWAY CRITICIZED STRATEGY AND IMPACT STATEMENTS IN WFC PROGRAM, FORMER FOR BEING TOO OPTIMISTIC AND LATTER FOR CITING PRESENT ACHIEVEMENTS AS ANTICIPATED RESULTS. SECRETARIAT AND FAO REP ARGUED THAT WFC HAD NOT YET REACHED A STAGE WHERE STATEMENTS OF IMPACT SUSCEPTIBLE TO EVALUATION MIGHT BE OFFERED, AND ARGUED THAT MANILA COMMUNIQUE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 USUN N 03524 01 OF 02 090631Z

STATEMENT OF A CONTINUUM. FAO ADDED THAT WFC'S MANDATE IS TO STIMULATE OTHERS, PRIMARILY GOVERNMENTS, TO ACT. SOVIET DELEGATION STATED IT WAS BEYOND SECRETARIAT'S TERMS OF REFERENCE TO SPECIFY IMPACTS FOR WFC SINCE IT IS THE PROVINCE OF OTHER GOVERNMENTAL BODIES TO DETERMINE THESE. SOVIET DELEGATE DID AGREE, HOWEVER, WITH NORWAY'S GENERAL POINT THAT FORMULATION OF IMPACTS IN THIS SECTION OF MEDIUM-TERM PLAN WAS GENERAL AND NON-SPECIFIC, AND SAID THAT THIS FAILING PROVIDED TANGIBLE EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF INSPECTOR BERTRAND'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE INSTITUTION OF TIME-LIMITED OBJECTIVES FOR UN SUB-PROGRAMS.

4. DISCUSSION OF ECA PROGRAM DREW LITTLE COMMENT, BUT ELICITED CONFIRMATION FROM ECA AND FAO REPS THAT FOOD STORAGE AND REDUCTION OF FOOD WASTE ARE MAJOR AREAS OF CONCENTRATION. ECA REP DEFENDED SLOW COMPLETION RATE OF PROGRAMS BY STATING THAT UN CANNOT WORK FASTER THAN COOPERATING GOVERNMENTS.

5. BULGARIA AND UK CRITICIZED ECE PROGRAM FOR FAILURE TO REFLECT DECISIONS OF APRIL 78 ECE MEETING, AND FRANCE

AND GHANA SHARPLY QUESTIONED STATEMENT THAT QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS OF IMPACT ACHIEVEMENT ARE NOT POSSIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM. SECRETARIAT SAID APRIL MEETING SUBSTANTIALLY MODIFIED PROGRAM, BUT THESE CHANGES WERE NOT MAJOR, AND RATHER WEAKLY DEFENDED ABSENCE OF QUANTITATIVE PROGRESS INDICATORS.

6. ARGENTINA CRITICIZED PRESENTATION OF ECLA PROGRAM AND ENTERED RESERVATIONS WITH RESPECT TO REFERENCE TO BASIC NEEDS IN THIS PROGRAM. BRAZIL AND USSR SUPPORTED ARGENTINE RESERVATION.

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03524 02 OF 02 090631Z
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03524

7. USSR AND BULGARIA PRESSED HARD FOR REFERENCE TO CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT AND AGRARIAN REFORM IN ECWA AND ESCAP PROGRAMS. BOTH DELEGATIONS REFERRED TO UNGA RESOLUTION 31/37 AND ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1978/8. USSR THEN WENT ON TO ADD THAT IT WISHED REFERENCE TO THESE RESOLUTIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN ALL PROGRAMS DEALING WITH LDC'S. RESPONDING TO US QUESTION, SOVIET REP SAID REFERENCE NOT REQUIRED IN PROGRAM FOR ECE SINCE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT THRIVES IN ALL COUNTRIES OF THAT REGION. ARGENTINA, FRANCE, INDONESIA AND NETHERLANDS NOTED THAT BOTH RESOLUTIONS CALLED FOR REPORT BY SYG TO 33RD UNGA ON COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT AND AGRARIAN REFORM, AND ARGUED THAT CPC SHOULD NOT ANTICIPATE OUTCOME OF THIS REPORT. US SAID IT HAD NO PROBLEM IN PRINCIPLE WITH REFERENCE TO CO-OPS, BUT WOULD WANT TO STUDY RESOLUTIONS IN QUESTION AND RESERVED RIGHT TO RETURN TO THIS POINT WHEN FINAL REPORT TAKEN UP.

8. IN RESPONSE TO US COMMENT, ECWA REP SAID THAT CO-OPERATION WITH IFAD STILL IN STAGE OF EXPLORATION AND

NEGOTIATION AND THAT THIS PROBABLY WOULD LEAD TO CO-
OPERATION IN PROJECT IDENTIFICATION. JAPAN AND INDONESIA
CALLED FOR CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENTS OF LEGISLATIVE
MANDATE IN ESCAP PROGRAM AND ESCAP REP, RESPONDING TO
SOVIET QUESTION, CONFIRMED THAT FERTILIZER NETWORK WILL
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03524 02 OF 02 090631Z

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